

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 – 2017, 19 October 2016

Ref No: SQ16-000382

OUTCOME: 2 – Health Access and Support Services

Topic: Indigenous Funding

Type of Question: Hansard Page 17, 19 October 2016

Senator: Di Natale, Richard

Question:

Senator DI NATALE: Some Indigenous programs, for example, were no longer funded. Will that continue to be the case?

Mr Bowles: I will take that on notice, but what I can say is that Indigenous funding is definitely not cut. There may be changes in programs—I cannot guarantee that—but Indigenous funding is still there and it is a growing and escalating fund.

Answer:

Funding under the Indigenous Australians' Health Program (IAHP) is ongoing. The IAHP provides \$3.4 billion (GST exclusive) over four years (2016-17 to 2019-20) to provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with access to effective, high quality and culturally appropriate health services in urban, regional, rural and remote locations across Australia. Approximately 140 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services, and over 100 other providers, are funded under the IAHP.

Direct expenditure by the Australian Government on health services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples has steadily increased over successive budgets.